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ARMOR ACTIVITY
CONG PHU RAILROAD SIDING, NORTH VIETNAM
19-27N 105-46E

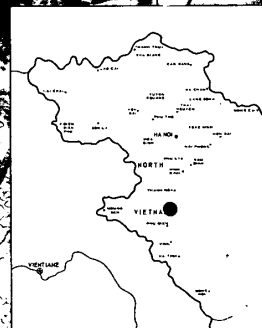
MISSION GS-SB0032, 3 DECEMBER 1973



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FLATCAR WITH RAMPS

PROB T-54/59 TANKS
PROB PIECES OF ARMOR



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REFERENCE TO: MISSION GS-SB0032 ARMOR ACTIVITY
CONG PHU RAILROAD SIDING, NORTH VIETNAM

1. SIGNIFICANCE: FIRST IDENTIFICATION OF ARMOR AT A RAIL FACILITY
IN THE NORTH VIETNAMESE PANHANDLE SINCE THE
VIETNAMESE CEASE-FIRE.

2. LOCATION: CONG PHU RAILROAD SIDING [] IS
APPROXIMATELY 21 NAUTICAL MILES (NM) SOUTH OF
THANH HOA AT 19-27-35N 105-46-07E.

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3. REMARKS: THE CONG PHU SIDING IS APPROXIMATELY HALFWAY
BETWEEN THANH HOA AND VINH AND HAS NOT BEEN
ESTABLISHED AS A SIGNIFICANT INDICATOR OF
TRANSSHIPMENT ACTIVITY. IT WAS REPEATEDLY
BOMBED PRIOR TO THE CEASE-FIRE BUT HAS NOW
BEEN RESTORED.

SINCE THE CEASE-FIRE AN INCREASING AMOUNT OF
ARMOR HAS BEEN OBSERVED IN OPEN STORAGE AT
INSTALLATIONS IN CENTRAL NORTH VIETNAM AS WELL
AS IN SEVERAL SMALL PARKS IN THE PANHANDLE.

These notes have been prepared for briefing purposes only and should not be used for detailed analytical work. Their use should be restricted to the particular briefing boards (s) they were prepared for and must be considered valid only for the reporting period as indicated by the date of issue. For information concerning these notes contact Chief, Imagery Exploitation Group NPIC.

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A SEARCH OF VISIBLE PORTIONS OF THE RAIL LINE
BETWEEN THANH HOA AND VINH REVEALED NO ARMOR OR
WEAPONS AT RAIL FACILITIES EXCEPT AT THAT SEEN
AT CONG PHU.

4. NEGATION DATE:

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5. FIRST
IDENTIFICATION:

TANKS AT THE CONG PHU SIDING - THIS MISSION

6. MISSION READOUT:

EIGHT TANKS, PROBABLY T-54/59, AND TWO OTHER
PROBABLE PIECES OF ARMOR WERE OBSERVED AT THE CONG PHU RAILROAD
SIDING ON [REDACTED] THE TANKS WERE ON ACCESS
ROADS TO THE SIDING AND ON AN UNNUMBERED ROUTE NORTH OF THE SIDING.
THE RAIL SIDING CONSISTS OF TWO SETS OF TRACKS ON THE EAST SIDE OF
THE MAIN RAIL LINE BETWEEN THANH HOA AND VINH. ROLLING STOCK AT
THE SIDING INCLUDED TWO DIESEL LOCOMOTIVES, 15 FLATCARS, (THREE
WITH COVERED MATERIALS), FIVE GONDOLAS, TWO BOXCARS AND SEVERAL DESTROYED/
DAMAGED RAILCARS.

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A SET OF RAMPS EXTENDS FROM THE END OF ONE EMPTY FLATCAR. TRACK
SCARS ON THE GROUND LEADING FROM THE RAMP INDICATED RECENT TRANSLOADING
ACTIVITY.

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NO TANK TRANSPORTERS OR ARMOR STORAGE WAS OBSERVED NEAR THE
SIDING.

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ENLARGEMENT FACTOR: 25X

IEG/SGD/SAB

COMMENTS AND QUERIES REGARDING THIS REPORT ARE WELCOMED. THEY MAY BE
DIRECTED TO THE IMAGERY ANALYST [REDACTED] OF THE SOUTH ASIA BRANCH,
SGD/IEG/NPIC, CODE 143, [REDACTED]

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